

Senate Resolution 7 - Reprinted

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 7

BY BARTZ, JOHNSON, KETTERING, HAHN, SODDERS, BEHN,
RAGAN, HAMERLINCK, BACON, KIBBIE, GRONSTAL,
SCHOENJAHN, RIELLY, KAPUCIAN, BOETTGER, FEENSTRA,
BEALL, CHELGREN, HANCOCK, WILHELM, SEYMOUR,
DANDEKAR, MCKINLEY, ERNST, FRAISE, and SORENSON
(As Amended and Passed by the Senate April 7, 2011)

1 A Resolution urging the nullification of rules adopted
2 by the United States Environmental Protection
3 Agency relating to national emissions standards for
4 hazardous air pollutants for reciprocating internal
5 combustion engines.

6 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental
7 Protection Agency in March 2000 finalized national
8 emissions standards for hazardous air pollutants for
9 reciprocating internal combustion engines which took
10 effect in May 2010; and

11 WHEREAS, the rules would have a devastating impact
12 on Iowa's municipal utilities due to the fact that the
13 municipal utilities collectively operate 287 diesel
14 electric generators with a combined nameplate capacity
15 of 548 megawatts; and

16 WHEREAS, these rules impact 67 utilities that serve
17 a total of 106,000 customers with an average of 1,560
18 customer meters per utility; and

19 WHEREAS, Iowa's municipal electric utilities
20 operate diesel generators both to be able to keep the
21 lights on when transmissions lines are downed by ice,
22 wind, floods, or other natural disasters or man-made

23 emergencies, and to meet the obligation to own or buy
24 reserve capacity; and

1 WHEREAS, the rules allow a municipal electric
2 utility to run diesel generators in an emergency, but
3 effectively take away the ability of a small community
4 to afford them by prohibiting the receipt of payment or
5 credit for reserve capacity; and

6 WHEREAS, the diesel generators run only a few hours
7 a year, with averages ranging from 14 to 46 hours
8 depending on power supply arrangements; and

9 WHEREAS, the application of the rules requires that
10 each of these engines either be retrofit, replaced,
11 or removed, resulting in huge cost increases to the
12 citizen owners of these utilities in the form of rate
13 increases and lost capacity; and

14 WHEREAS, the cost estimate if all 287 diesel
15 generators were to be retrofit for compliance over a
16 10-year period is \$36 million, which is an average cost
17 of \$34.14 per year per customer with costs as high
18 as \$203 per year per customer or more, and such cost
19 estimates would increase beyond this amount if diesel
20 generators are replaced or taken out of service; NOW
21 THEREFORE,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the United States
23 Environmental Protection Agency is urged to rescind
24 the national emissions standards for hazardous air
25 pollutants for reciprocating internal combustion
26 engines; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Iowa's Congressional
28 delegation is urged to take action to nullify the

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29 rules; and

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the
1 Senate shall forward a copy of this resolution to
2 the Administrator of the United States Environmental
3 Protection Agency and all members of Iowa's
4 Congressional delegation.